

Chief, Economic Research, ORR

1 May 1959

THRU : Chief, Industrial Division, ORR
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Industrial Training Courses

1. I know of no training courses sponsored by US industry that would provide the necessary technical background to members of this branch.

2. I feel that analysis of economic intelligence on the machine building industries of the Sino-Soviet Bloc requires some familiarity with (1) the properties of metals and their behavior under various conditions of temperature and methods of processing and (2) the basic manufacturing processes of casting, forging, machining, and assembly.

3. This knowledge could most expeditiously be imparted to D/I analysts through a special course which could probably be arranged by the Office of Training in cooperation with the engineering school of one of the local universities. A series of lectures, supplemented by use of one of the existing textbooks in this field and interspersed with a number of movies on these processes, should accomplish our initial training objectives. Only after this course is completed should plant visits be arranged. Our present practice of sending analysts on plant tours before they have acquired enough knowledge to enable them to understand what they see does not provide the optimum results that could be achieved from such visits.

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